



COUNCIL SUMMONS

THURSDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2017

GWYS Y CYNGOR

DYDD IAU, 23 CHWEFROR 2017,

SUPPLEMENTAL PAPERS

ALTERNATIVE BUDGET PROPOSALS

- 1 Liberal Democrat Group (*pages 3 – 10*)
- 2 Plaid Cymru Group (*pages 11 – 18*)

Davina Fiore
Director of Governance & Legal Services

County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW

Friday, 17 February 2017

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

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COUNCIL – 23 FEBRUARY 2017

ALTERNATIVE BUDGET PROPOSALS

- 1 Liberal Democrat Group – (pages 3 – 10)
- 2 Plaid Cymru Group (pages 11 – 18)

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The Proposal in the Budget Report under Agenda Item 8 be amended as below:

Liberal Democrat Group

	Description	(Savings)/ Costs £000	Cumulative £000
New or Council Wide Savings Proposals	General savings target – vacant posts To be allocated across directorates based on employee costs and recognising that not all new posts will be filled on their budgeted start date.	(300.00)	(300.00)
	General savings target – Staff Agency costs To be allocated across directorates based on agency costs. It is expected that this can be managed through a reduction in sickness absence.	(250.00)	(550.00)
	Transfer from the HRA – Contribution toward the financing of library / hub improvements.	(15.00)	(565.00)
Additional Expenditure	Capital financing costs for £1 million increase in capital budget for roads and pavements.	75.02	(489.98)
	Capital financing costs for £1 million increase in capital budget to improve libraries / hubs.	75.02	(414.96)
	Capital financing costs for £76,000 increase in capital budget for Alley gates. This increases the budget for 2017/18 to £126,000.	5.70	(409.26)
	Eight new Community Sweepers.	206.40	(202.86)
Use of Reserves and Contingency Budgets	Transfer from the Insurance Reserve to fund road improvements. Rationale that better roads and pavements will lead to fewer insurance claims.	(75.02)	(277.88)
	Transfer from Waste Management Reserve to fund additional community sweepers. This reduces the estimated balance on the reserve to £2,387,600.	(206.40)	(484.28)
	Reduction to the specific contingency budget for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS). This reduces the balance relating to prior years. Should these proposals be accepted an amount of £587,050 will be added to the contingency in 2017/18 to fund the implications of the proposed increase to Council Tax. There is an estimated £3 million in the Welfare Reserve to meet any unanticipated increase in commitments.	(1,104.44)	(1,588.72)
	Reduction in the level of General Contingency. This reduces the Contingency to £2.5 million reflecting the fact that no savings have been identified as 'Red Risk' and that 95.0% are either realised or backed up by detailed plans.	(500.00)	(2,088.72)
		(2,088.72)	(2,088.72)

	Description	(Savings)/ Costs	Cumulative
Capital Programme 2017/18			
	Improvements to roads and pavements - based on assessment of condition across the city.	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Improvements to libraries / hubs - To improve and expand the provision of libraries / hubs throughout the City. Allows a new administration to consider the refurbishment and reopening of Roath Library should they consider it a priority.	1,000.00	2,000.00
	Additional funds for Alley Gate schemes – Reinstates the capital budget to £126,000.	76.00	2,076.00
		<hr/> 2,076.00	<hr/> 2,076.00

Proposed by: Cllr Nigel Howells

Seconded by: Cllr Elizabeth Clark

Statutory Officers Commentary on the Liberal Democrat Budget Proposals 2017/18

The proposal from the Liberal Democrat Group includes additional growth and savings, a reduction in specific contingency budgets and an increased use of earmarked reserves when compared with the Cabinet Proposal. Overall, this results in a net reduction of £2.089 million to the funding requirement, reducing the proposed increase in Council Tax for 2017/18 to 1.99%. The proposals have not been subject to detailed discussions with directorates or further equality impact assessments. However, within this constraint they have been reviewed as to their financial achievability.

This alternative budget includes £565,000 of new or Council wide savings with general savings targets across all directorates of £300,000 on vacant posts and £250,000 on staff agency costs. The proposals also include an additional transfer of £15,000 from the HRA as a contribution towards the financing of capital spend on libraries / hubs. It is proposed that the saving on vacant posts be allocated across all directorates on the basis of employee costs and includes an assumption that not all new posts will be filled on their budgeted start date. The proposed saving on agency costs assumes an allocation to directorates based on existing levels of agency spend with the assumption that the reduction can be managed through reduced sickness absence. Both these savings are un-tested in terms of their achievability and are in addition to any employee savings already proposed by directorates. As such there is a risk in terms of achievability and detailed work would be required to allocate and manage these savings during the year.

The budget proposal includes £206,400 of additional budget in order to fund eight new Community Sweepers. This will be funded by a transfer from the Waste Management Reserve in 2017/18 with on-going funding should this initiative continue, having to be identified as part of the 2018/19 Budget. This represents a potential increase to the budget gap for that year as the use of reserves only provides a temporary source of funding. This alternative budget also includes an increase of £2.076 million to the Capital Programme for 2017/18 with £1.0 million for improvements to roads and pavements to be allocated based on an assessment of conditions across the City and £1.0 million for improvements to libraries / hubs. This would provide funding to improve and expand the provision of libraries / hubs throughout the City. There is also an additional capital allocation of £76,000 to fund alley gating schemes, increasing the capital budget in 2017/18 to £126,000. Provision has been included within the revenue budget proposals to fund the on-going capital financing costs associated with these capital allocations. The capital financing cost of £75,020 for the £1.0 million improvements to roads and pavements will initially be funded by a proposed drawdown from the Insurance Reserve in 2017/18 with the

on-going costs in future years funded from a reduction in insurance budgets on the basis that better roads and pavements will lead to fewer insurance claims. Should these on-going savings not materialise then the budget gap for 2018/19 would increase as the use of reserves only provides a temporary source of funding. As noted above the capital financing costs of £75,020 in relation to libraries / hubs assumes a £15,000 contribution from the HRA in relation to housing services. The ability to utilise this level of funding from the HRA will depend on the work undertaken, the locality and the range of services being provided and therefore at this stage the potential contribution can only be estimated. Any specific proposals such as the potential for refurbishment and reopening of Roath Library would require detailed consideration including a range of property and funding considerations. Although provision has been made to fund the capital financing costs arising from the proposed £2.076 million increase to the Capital Programme, this still represents a significant increase to the level of new schemes supported together with the associated borrowing costs over a 20 year period. This is at a time when borrowing costs are continuing to form an increasing proportion of the Council's base budget in the medium term. This is evident in the local and statutory indicators for the capital financing requirement as set out in the budget report. This is a significant concern, impacting on the ability to fund new schemes in the future and potentially requiring a review of existing schemes within the later years of the Capital Programme.

Two reductions to specific contingency budgets are included as part of this alternative budget proposal. The most significant is a proposed reduction of £1.104 million from the specific contingency budget for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS). This utilises the estimated carried forward balance of £1.15 million from 2016/17 and previous years which is currently held to reflect changes in the volume of claimants. As part of the budget proposal an additional amount will be allocated to the Contingency in 2017/18 to reflect the increase in the rate of Council Tax. This will be £587,050 should this alternative budget proposal be accepted. The proposal notes that in addition to the contingency budget there is also an estimated £3.0 million in the Welfare Reform Reserve which could be utilised to meet any unanticipated increase in commitments. The Contingency is held to reflect the potential for variations in the level of claimants and to fund the impact of changes in the rate of Council Tax. Any reduction to these budgets reduces the ability to respond to sudden changes and increased costs and therefore impacts on the on-going financial resilience of the Council. The ability to utilise the reserve mitigates this, however earmarked reserves do not provide a source of on-going funding and any future increase in claims will need to be funded within the base budget. The other proposed reduction to a Contingency Budget is £500,000 in respect of the General Contingency. This Contingency budget was previously set at £4.0 million however it has been reduced to £3.0 million in the Cabinet Budget proposal for 2017/18 in recognition of the reduced quantum of directorate savings proposals and the high proportion of proposals that have either been realised or have a detailed plan in place. This alternative budget proposal reduces the contingency by a further £500,000 to £2.5 million on the same basis and notes that no savings have been identified as 'Red Risk' and that 95.0% are backed up by detailed plans or have already been realised. This further reduction increases the level of risk and potential impacts on financial resilience in 2017/18.

Overall, this proposal includes £1.885 million of reductions to specific contingency budgets and earmarked reserves. It also adds £2.076 million borrowing in order to fund additional capital schemes. In both cases this puts added strain on financial resilience and the ability of the Council to manage its resources in future years.

Legal Implications

The proposals have not been subject to detailed discussions with directorates or further equality impact assessments. Given this constraint, there is increased risk that changes to staffing arrangements may lead to challenge and reputational impact. It is important, therefore, that the proposals are considered in the context of the general legal advice outlined in the Council's budget report.

Budget Summary – Liberal Democrat Proposal 2017/18

Budget Summary - Liberal Democrat Proposal

Resources Available:-	£000	£000
Welsh Government	(428,217)	
Use of Reserves	(1,781)	
Council Tax at 1.99% increase	<u>(154,673)</u>	
		(584,671)
 Resources Needed:-		
2016/17 adjusted Base Budget	578,846	
Commitments, inflation and realignments	18,553	
New Financial Pressures Accepted	4,844	
 Less:		
Council Savings	<u>(17,572)</u>	
		584,671

RECOMMENDATIONS – LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP

(a) Recommendations to Council

The Liberal Democrat Group have examined the Cabinet budget proposals and considered the responses received to the Budget Consultation. Having taken account of the comments of the Section 151 Officer in respect of the robustness of the attached alternative budget and the adequacy of reserves as required under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, the Liberal Democrat Group recommend to Council:

- 1.0 Approve the Revenue, Capital and Housing Revenue Account budgets including all proposals and increasing the Council Tax by 1.99% as set out in the Budget Report and this amendment and that the Council resolve the following terms.
- 2.0 That it be noted that at its meeting on 15 December 2016 the Council calculated the following amounts for the year 2017/18 in accordance with the regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-
 - a) 143,032 being the amount calculated in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995, as amended, as its Council Tax base for the year.
 - b)

Lisvane	2,350
Pentyrch	3,258
Radyr	3,651
St. Fagans	1,295
Old St. Mellons	1,400
Tongwynlais	823

being the amounts calculated in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Regulations as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which special items relate.

- 2.1 Agree that the following amounts be now calculated by the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff for the year 2017/18 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

- a) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (d) (including Community Council precepts totalling £309,600).
£1,075,273,713
- b) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for items set out in Section 32(3)(a) and (c).
£492,424,211
- c) Amount by which the aggregate at 2.1(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2.1(b) above calculated in accordance with Section 32(4) as the budget requirement for the year.
£582,849,502
- d) Aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its Council Fund in respect of Revenue Support Grant and redistributed Non-Domestic Rates.
£428,216,560
- e) The amount at 2.1(c) above less the amount at 2.1(d) (net of the amount for discretionary relief of £350,000), all divided by the amount at 2.0(a) above, calculated in accordance with Section 33(1) as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year.
£1,083.55
- f) Aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1).
£309,600
- g) Amount at 2.1(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 2.1(f) above by the amount at 2.0(a) above, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which no special items relate.
£1,081.39
- h) The amounts given by adding to the amount at 2.1(g) above the amounts of special items relating to dwellings in those part of the Council's area mentioned below, divided in each case by the amount at 2.0(b) above, calculated in accordance with Section 34(3) as the basic amounts of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which special items relate.

	£
Lisvane	1,095.86
Pentyrch	1,109.32
Radyr	1,114.26
St. Fagans	1,095.29
Old St. Mellons	1,101.10
Tongwynlais	1,104.48

- i) The amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2.1(g) and 2.1(h) above by the number which in the proportion set out in the Council Tax (Valuation Bands) (Wales) Order 2003 is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D calculated in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

VALUATION BANDS

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Area									
Lisvane	730.58	852.33	974.10	1,095.86	1,339.38	1,582.91	1,826.43	2,191.72	2,557.00
Pentyrch	739.55	862.80	986.07	1,109.32	1,355.84	1,602.36	1,848.87	2,218.64	2,588.41
Radyr	742.84	866.64	990.46	1,114.26	1,361.87	1,609.49	1,857.10	2,228.52	2,599.93
St. Fagans	730.20	851.89	973.60	1,095.29	1,338.69	1,582.09	1,825.49	2,190.58	2,555.67
Old St.									
Mellons	734.07	856.41	978.76	1,101.10	1,345.80	1,590.49	1,835.18	2,202.21	2,569.24
Tongwynlais	736.32	859.04	981.76	1,104.48	1,349.92	1,595.36	1,840.80	2,208.95	2,577.11
All other parts of the Council's Area	720.93	841.08	961.24	1,081.39	1,321.70	1,562.01	1,802.32	2,162.78	2,523.24

- 2.2 That it be noted that for the year 2017/18, the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:-

VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
145.50	169.75	193.99	218.24	266.74	315.24	363.74	436.49	509.24

- 2.3 Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2.1(i) and 2.2 above, the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2017/18 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Part of Council's Area

VALUATION BANDS

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Area									
Lisvane	876.08	1,022.08	1,168.09	1,314.10	1,606.12	1,898.15	2,190.17	2,628.21	3,066.24
Pentyrch	885.05	1,032.55	1,180.06	1,327.56	1,622.58	1,917.60	2,212.61	2,655.13	3,097.65
Radyr	888.34	1,036.39	1,184.45	1,332.50	1,628.61	1,924.73	2,220.84	2,665.01	3,109.17
St. Fagans	875.70	1,021.64	1,167.59	1,313.53	1,605.43	1,897.33	2,189.23	2,627.07	3,064.91
Old St.	879.57	1,026.16	1,172.75	1,319.34	1,612.54	1,905.73	2,198.92	2,638.70	3,078.48
Mellons									
Tongwynlais	881.82	1,028.79	1,175.75	1,322.72	1,616.66	1,910.60	2,204.54	2,645.44	3,086.35
All other parts of the Council's Area	866.43	1,010.83	1,155.23	1,299.63	1,588.44	1,877.25	2,166.06	2,599.27	3,032.48

- 2.4 That the Corporate Director Resources be authorised to make payments under Section 38 of the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 from the Council Fund by equal instalments on the last working day of each month from April 2017 to March 2018 in respect of the precept levied by the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales in the sum of £31,215,904.
- 2.5 That the Common Seal be affixed to the said Council Tax.
- 2.6 The Common Seal be affixed to precepts for Port Health Expenses for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 namely
- | | |
|--|---------|
| | £ |
| The County Council of the City and County of Cardiff | 113,755 |
| The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council | 12,846 |
- 2.7 That notices of the making of the said Council Taxes signed by the Chief Executive be given by advertisement in the local press under Section 38(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- 3.0 Approve the Prudential Indicators for 2017/18, 2018/19 & 2019/20 delegating to the Section 151 Officer the authority to effect movement between the limits for borrowing and long term liabilities within the limit for any year.
- 4.0 Approve the Treasury Management Strategy for 2017/18 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2013 and the Local Authority (Capital Finance & Accountancy) (Wales) Regulations 2003 and subsequent amendments.
- 5.0 Approve the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy for 2017/18.
- 6.0 Authorise the Section 151 Officer to raise such funds as may be required to finance capital expenditure by temporary or long term borrowing within the limits outlined in the strategy above and to bring forward or delay schemes within the Capital Programme.
- 7.0 Maintain the current Council Tax Reduction Scheme as set out in the report.

THE LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP
22 FEBRUARY 2017

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The Proposal in the Budget Report under Agenda item 8 be amended as below:

Plaid Cymru Group

Line	Directorate	Description	(Savings)/ Costs £000	Cumulative £000
Directorate Savings				
55	Education & LL	Youth Service Budget	250	250
	Resources	Core Cities and CCIN Subscription	(52)	198
	Corporate	LGA and WLGA Contributions	(188)	10
	Management	Management Restructure	(1,000)	(990)
	Council Wide			
Financial Pressures				
3	City Operations	Additional Planning Resource	(40)	(1,030)
4	City Operations	Parking Strategy Schemes	(180)	(1,210)
5	City Operations	Intensive Cleansing Initiative	(50)	(1,260)
9	Economic Development	Recycling & Reuse Centre	(218)	(1,478)
12	Education & Lifelong Learning	Child Friendly City Status	(80)	(1,558)
13	Governance & Legal Services	Business Support to Members	(82)	(1,640)
14	Resources	Support for Trainee Placement Programme	(230)	(1,870)
	City Operations	Butetown Rapid Reaction Needle Cleansing Service	50	(1,820)
	City Operations	Play Centres – Restore Grangetown, Riverside and Splott Play Centres to 2012/13 funding levels	114	(1,706)
	Education & Lifelong Learning	Youth Service Budget	750	(956)
	Economic Development	Waungron Road HWRC Reinstatement - operating costs	170	(786)
Capital Financing Cost			65	(721)
Net Position			(721)	(721)

Capital Programme Amendments

The following new schemes are proposed:

	Gross Cost (£000)	S106 Funding (£000)	Net Cost (£000)
Mary Immaculate Traffic Safety Scheme	120		120
Caerau Play Area Investment	200	(195)	5
Llandaff North Hailey Park	100	(60)	40
Ely Play Area	200		200
Safer Routes to Schools (including Treganna path)	500		500
Total	1,120	(255)	865

In addition, the following proposals, which do not require additional capital funding, are included as part of this amendment.

Gabalfa Ward 20mph Scheme
Resurfacing of Grand Avenue and Amroth Road
Re-open Waungron Road Household Waste Recycling Centre

Proposed by Cllr Neil J McEvoy

Seconded by Cllr Gareth Holden

Statutory Officers Commentary on the Plaid Cymru Budget Proposals 2017/18

The proposal from the Plaid Cymru Group rejects one saving proposal and a number of financial pressures and suggests several alternative savings and financial pressure proposals. In addition, the amendment proposes an increase to the overall value of the Capital Programme. The capital financing costs associated with this increase are included as an additional commitment. Overall, this proposal results in a reduction to the original proposed increase to the rate of Council Tax.

The value of the savings proposal rejected is £250,000, with the additional savings proposed totalling £1.240 million. Financial pressures have been rejected to the value of £880,000, with additional pressures proposed totalling £914,000. The value of the proposed increase to the Capital Programme is £865,000, resulting in an additional annual capital financing cost of £65,000. In addition, a financial pressure has been included in recognition of the operating costs that would be incurred should Waungron Road be reopened as a household waste recycling centre, totalling £170,000. As a consequence, the overall change to the Council's revenue budget is a release of resources of £721,000. The proposal is to utilise this overall release in facilitating a reduction in the Cabinet proposed Council Tax increase. The net effect is a proposed Council Tax increase of 3.11%.

The proposals have not been subject to detailed discussions with directorates, nor have equality impact assessments been undertaken in respect of these. However, within this constraint, they have been reviewed as to their financial achievability and risk.

Certain proposals have been identified as presenting risks in terms of their achievability. This includes the proposal to reinstate certain play centre budgets to the levels that existed in 2012/13. This is due to the fact that the model for providing play services has changed so that staff are no longer based at particular centres and are working peripatetically. In addition, certain buildings that previously hosted play provision are no longer available for use. This is due to the buildings having been transferred, or being in the process of transferring, to third parties including community organisations. In addition, transferring these buildings has resulted in opportunities to invest in improving the condition of those buildings, at no cost to the Council. As a consequence, consideration would have to be given as to how feasible it would be, both financially and practically, to restore provision to the arrangements that were in existence in 2012/13. In addition, two of the financial pressures which have been removed as part of this alternative budget, are rated as presenting a Red-Amber risk. These are in respect of the Child Friendly City initiative and business support for members. In the absence of funding, to address these risks, alternative mitigating actions will need to be considered by the respective directorates. A further risk is presented by the proposal to undertake a management restructure to the value of £1 million, particularly as no details are available to support this proposal. This would need to be managed in accordance with employment law and having regard to the critical functions of the Council.

Several proposals have been identified as being able to be met through transferring funding from existing budget proposals. The first of these relates to the introduction of a 20mph scheme within the Gabalfa ward. An amount of £200,000 is proposed as part of the Financial Resilience Mechanism for 2017/18 and, subject to a review of priorities, it is anticipated that it would be possible to fund this scheme as part of that allocation. In relation to the proposal to resurface Grand Avenue and Amroth Road, allocations have been made within the proposed Capital Programme to meet costs associated with the renewal of the Highways Network Asset. Again, subject to a review of commitments against this budget and technical considerations, it is anticipated that the costs of resurfacing these two parts of the network could be met from within this allocation. The proposal in relation to re-establishing the Waungron Road site as a household waste recycling centre would result in revenue costs estimated as totalling £170,000 per annum and this has been reflected as a financial pressure within this alternative budget proposal. The 2017/18 capital allocation for the Western Transport Interchange would be utilised in bringing the site back into use for recycling purposes. A further consideration would be the impact on the existing transport strategy which is currently being developed. This could result in further financial implications should this strategy be aborted.

This alternative budget proposes an overall increase to the Capital Programme. This overall increase, which totals £865,000 in 2017/18, needs to be considered in the context of the Council's affordability indicators, as identified in the Budget Report. This is particularly relevant in light of the fact that the Section 151 Officer has advised that additional borrowing should be limited over the period of the Capital Programme, as recognition of the fact that borrowing costs form an increasingly significant proportion of the overall Council revenue budget. This would require a review of existing schemes in the later years of the Capital Programme, to ensure that the programme can be met within the overall financial envelope. In addition, further consideration would need to be given to the proposal to utilise Section 106 monies. Whilst it would be appropriate to use the Section 106 monies identified, due to the requirement to spend them in connection with parks schemes, it would be necessary to undertake a review of priorities and existing commitments against these monies, in consultation with local members, before the schemes are undertaken.

Legal Implications

Membership/subscription agreements with Core Cities, CCIN, the WLGA and the LGA may require a period of notice to be given prior to withdrawal, if so the saving would be delayed and there would not be a full year effect.

The staffing proposals have not been subject to detailed discussions with directorates or further equality impact assessments. Given this constraint, there is increased risk that changes to staffing arrangements may lead to challenge and reputational impact. It is important, therefore, that the proposals are considered in the context of the general legal advice outlined in the Council's budget report. The proposed management restructure itself is also likely to result in redundancy costs and possibly additional legal costs from employment tribunal claims. In addition, as an employer the Council has a duty of care to its staff, and there could be a risk of increased stress to staff and potentially an increase in employment related actions against the Council if adequate and experienced management are not in place.

The amendment does not support the financial pressure of £82,000 in relation to business support to members. Under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 the Council is required to appoint a Democratic Services Committee whose function is to review the support and advice available to members of the Council and the terms and conditions of office of those members. Following a review the Committee must make a report and recommendations to the Council. The current Democratic Services Committee (and the Cabinet) have expressed concern at the level of support available for members at the moment, and this will be put under further pressure after the local elections because a significant number of experienced councillors are not standing for re-election and newly elected members will require more support. If the additional resources are not agreed member enquiries are unlikely to be dealt

with within the recommended timescales and there will be a reputational impact on the Council and its councillors. This may result in the Democratic Services Committee making a formal report to Council recommending that additional resources are allocated to member support. The Council is required to provide the Head of Democratic Services with such staff, accommodation and other resources as are, in its opinion, sufficient to allow his or her functions to be discharged. The Council may put itself at risk of receiving a report from the Head of Democratic Services stating that sufficient resources have not been provided.

Budget Summary – Plaid Cymru Proposal 2017/18

Resources Available:-	£000	£000
Welsh Government	(428,217)	
Use of Reserves	(1,500)	
Council Tax at 3.11% increase	<u>(156,372)</u>	
		(586,089)

Resources Needed:-

2016/17 adjusted Base Budget	578,846
Commitments, inflation and realignments	20,398
New Financial Pressures Accepted	4,842

Less:

Council Savings	<u>(17,997)</u>	586,089
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RECOMMENDATIONS – PLAID CYMRU GROUP

(a) Recommendations to Council

The Plaid Cymru Group have examined the Cabinet budget proposals and considered the responses received to the Budget Consultation. Having taken account of the comments of the Section 151 Officer in respect of the robustness of the attached alternative budget and the adequacy of reserves as required under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, the Plaid Cymru Group recommend to Council:

- 1.0 Approve the Revenue, Capital and Housing Revenue Account budgets including all proposals and increasing the Council Tax by 3.11% as set out in the Budget Report and this amendment and that the Council resolve the following terms.
- 2.0 That it be noted that at its meeting on 15 December 2016 the Council calculated the following amounts for the year 2017/18 in accordance with the regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-
 - a) 143,032 being the amount calculated in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995, as amended, as its Council Tax base for the year.
 - b)

Lisvane	2,350
Pentyrch	3,258
Radyr	3,651
St. Fagans	1,295
Old St. Mellons	1,400
Tongwynlais	823

being the amounts calculated in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Regulations as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which special items relate.

2.1 Agree that the following amounts be now calculated by the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff for the year 2017/18 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

a) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (d) (including Community Council precepts totalling £309,600).

£1,076,675,600

b) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for items set out in Section 32(3)(a) and (c).

£492,127,791

c) Amount by which the aggregate at 2.1(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2.1(b) above calculated in accordance with Section 32(4) as the budget requirement for the year.

£584,547,809

d) Aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its Council Fund in respect of Revenue Support Grant and redistributed Non-Domestic Rates.

£428,216,560

e) The amount at 2.1(c) above less the amount at 2.1(d) (net of the amount for discretionary relief of £350,000), all divided by the amount at 2.0(a) above, calculated in accordance with Section 33(1) as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year.

£1,095.43

f) Aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1).

£309,600

g) Amount at 2.1(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 2.1(f) above by the amount at 2.0(a) above, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which no special items relate.

£1,093.26

h) The amounts given by adding to the amount at 2.1(g) above the amounts of special items relating to dwellings in those part of the Council's area mentioned below, divided in each case by the amount at 2.0(b) above, calculated in accordance with Section 34(3) as the basic amounts of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which special items relate.

£

Lisvane	1,107.73
Pentyrch	1,121.19
Radyr	1,126.13
St. Fagans	1,107.16
Old St. Mellons	1,112.97
Tongwynlais	1,116.35

i) The amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2.1(g) and 2.1(h) above by the number which in the proportion set out in the Council Tax (Valuation Bands) (Wales) Order 2003 is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D calculated in

accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

VALUATION BANDS

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Area									
Lisvane	738.49	861.57	984.65	1,107.73	1,353.89	1,600.06	1,846.22	2,215.47	2,584.71
Pentyrch	747.46	872.04	996.62	1,121.19	1,370.35	1,619.51	1,868.66	2,242.39	2,616.12
Radyr	750.75	875.88	1,001.01	1,126.13	1,376.38	1,626.64	1,876.89	2,252.27	2,627.64
St. Fagans	738.11	861.13	984.15	1,107.16	1,353.20	1,599.24	1,845.28	2,214.33	2,583.38
Old St.	741.98	865.65	989.31	1,112.97	1,360.31	1,607.64	1,854.97	2,225.96	2,596.95
Mellons									
Tongwynlais	744.23	868.28	992.31	1,116.35	1,364.43	1,612.51	1,860.59	2,232.70	2,604.82
All other parts of the Council's Area	728.84	850.32	971.79	1,093.26	1,336.21	1,579.16	1,822.11	2,186.53	2,550.95

- 2.2 That it be noted that for the year 2017/18, the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwelling shown below:-

VALUATION BANDS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
145.50	169.75	193.99	218.24	266.74	315.24	363.74	436.49	509.24

- 2.3 Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2.1(i) and 2.2 above, the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2017/18 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

Part of Council's Area

VALUATION BANDS

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Area									
Lisvane	883.99	1,031.32	1,178.64	1,325.97	1,620.63	1,915.30	2,209.96	2,651.96	3,093.95
Pentyrch	892.96	1,041.79	1,190.61	1,339.43	1,637.09	1,934.75	2,232.40	2,678.88	3,125.36
Radyr	896.25	1,045.63	1,195.00	1,344.37	1,643.12	1,941.88	2,240.63	2,688.76	3,136.88
St. Fagans	883.61	1,030.88	1,178.14	1,325.40	1,619.94	1,914.48	2,209.02	2,650.82	3,092.62
Old St.	887.48	1,035.40	1,183.30	1,331.21	1,627.05	1,922.88	2,218.71	2,662.45	3,106.19
Mellons									
Tongwynlais	889.73	1,038.03	1,186.30	1,334.59	1,631.17	1,927.75	2,224.33	2,669.19	3,114.06
All other parts of the Council's Area	874.34	1,020.07	1,165.78	1,311.50	1,602.95	1,894.40	2,185.85	2,623.02	3,060.19

- 2.4 That the Corporate Director Resources be authorised to make payments under Section 38 of the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 from the Council Fund by equal instalments on the last working day of each month from April 2017 to March 2018 in respect of the precept levied by the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales in the sum of £31,215,904.
- 2.5 That the Common Seal be affixed to the said Council Tax.
- 2.6 The Common Seal be affixed to precepts for Port Health Expenses for the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 namely
- | | |
|--|----------|
| | £ |
| The County Council of the City and County of Cardiff | 113,755 |
| The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council | 12,846 |
- 2.7 That notices of the making of the said Council Taxes signed by the Chief Executive be given by advertisement in the local press under Section 38(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- 3.0 Approve the Prudential Indicators for 2017/18, 2018/19 & 2019/20 delegating to the Section 151 Officer the authority to effect movement between the limits for borrowing and long term liabilities within the limit for any year.
- 4.0 Approve the Treasury Management Strategy for 2017/18 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2013 and the Local Authority (Capital Finance & Accountancy) (Wales) Regulations 2003 and subsequent amendments.
- 5.0 Approve the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy for 2017/18.
- 6.0 Authorise the Section 151 Officer to raise such funds as may be required to finance capital expenditure by temporary or long term borrowing within the limits outlined in the strategy above and to bring forward or delay schemes within the Capital Programme.
- 7.0 Maintain the current Council Tax Reduction Scheme as set out in the report.

THE PLAID CYMRU GROUP
22 February 2017

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